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STATE DOCUMENTS

South Carolina State Library Board

## NEWS FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIANS

June 1960

35th Issue

### LEGISLATIVE MILESTONES

The just-ended session of the General Assembly passed several measures affecting local library situations.

Of perhaps the greatest interest is the act creating the Chesterfield County Library and Board and providing a tax levy of 3 mills for support, provided a favorable vote is obtained in a referendum. The issue will be decided in the June 14 primary. Appended to this newsletter is a photocopy of two recent editorials which reflect the vigor of the campaign local citizens, headed by Colonel Ernest B. Stevenson, are waging for passage of the referendum.

A bill was passed creating a Lancaster County Library with a one-mill tax levy to support it. Until this time the library has operated under the county school board. Separation of the library board from the school system marks the achievement of the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce's first goal in a drive toward the construction of a new county library building.

The Hampton and Jasper Library Boards were established by acts of the legislature.

Regretably, the move to establish a Beaufort County Library, so that this county might join with Allendale, Colleton, Hampton and Jasper in a new regional library demonstration, failed. Greenville also failed to accomplish unification of existing city and county libraries. There is hope, however, that both of these efforts will be renewed next year.

### JUNIOR INTERN AWARDS ANNOUNCED

At least nine young people who are either college students or recent graduates will have an opportunity this summer to learn from firsthand experience what public librarianship is. They are the recipients of the 1960 junior intern awards.

Junior interns appointed to date are as follows:

Aiken-Barnwell-Edgefield Regional Library: Miss Sandra Dew, a graduate of



Westhampton College, University of Richmond, who expects to enter the School of Library Science, University of North Carolina, in September

Calhoun County Library: Miss Rebecca Felder, rising senior, Columbia College

Charleston County Library: Miss Sara R. Moore, rising senior, Converse College; Mr. Benjamin F. Moore, a graduate of Benedict College

Chester County Library: Miss Judith Ann Steadman, who expects to enter Florida State University as a junior in September

Greenville Public Library: Miss Martha A. McWhorter, a 1960 graduate of Erskine College

Greenwood City and County Public Library: Miss May Moore, rising junior, Erskine College

Horry County Memorial Library: Miss Adele Booth, rising senior, Winthrop College

Laurens County Library: Miss Linda Raney, rising sophomore, Winthrop College

S. C. State Library Board: Miss Harriet Boyd, rising junior, Columbia College

As this is written, two internships are vacant, one in the Colleton County Memorial Library and one for Negro service in the Greenville Public Library.

The junior intern program is a recruiting project developed by the State Library Board as a part of its Library Services Act program. Its purpose is to give qualified young people an introduction to the profession of librarianship through the experience of actually working in a good public library. The major provisions of the project as outlined in the prospectus are as follows:

1. A junior internship will be a summer position in a public library in South Carolina awarded on a competitive basis to a college junior or senior or to a young teacher who is interested in becoming a public librarian.
2. The period of the internship will be not less than two and one-half months on a full-time basis.
3. Each position will carry a salary of \$150 per month.
4. The library will advertise the junior internship to ask applications for the position.



5. The position will be awarded on the basis of formal application, references and an interview by the head librarian. Priority will be given to applicants interested in librarianship as a profession.
6. The junior intern's work in the library will be planned as an introduction to various phases of public library work with the purpose of giving the intern an opportunity to form an opinion of the opportunities in librarianship.
7. As far as possible, the junior intern will be assigned sub-professional rather than clerical duties.

Last January a committee appointed from the Public Library Section, South Carolina Library Association, met in Columbia to make plans to recruit applicants for the junior internships. Since that time letters explaining the program have been sent to the heads of the English and History departments and the vocational guidance counselors of all South Carolina colleges and universities. With their assistance and that of the college librarians conferences have been held with faculty members and qualified students at most of the colleges in the state. A general news release describing the program and inviting applications was sent to student publications issued by colleges and universities in seven southeastern states. As a result of these recruiting activities, enough applications have been received to make the awards genuinely competitive. The Greenville Public Library, for example, received eleven applications for one internship.

With this beginning, hopes are high for the eventual success of the project in recruiting new librarians and in correcting the distorted image in the public mind of what a librarian is and does.

#### "CAROLINA TRAILS" ACTIVITIES

The Junior League of Columbia has permitted the State Library Board to retape the Gallant Carolina series which the League prepared and presented on the Columbia City Schools radio program. "Gallant Carolina" consists of ten 15-minute programs, which range from stories of the colonists to one about Ann Pamela Cunningham, the girl who saved Mt. Vernon.

The following stations will carry the broadcasts at the time indicated:

WAIM Anderson Tuesday nights 7:45 - 8:00 beginning May 31  
WOLS Florence Saturday mornings 9:15 - 9:30 beginning June 4  
WALD Walterboro Saturday mornings 9:45 - 10:00 beginning June 4

Stations in Aiken and Barnwell will also broadcast the series at a time to be announced later.



County activities:

Anderson: Prepared bookmarks publicizing the club and an announcement, which was mimeographed at the local Girl Scout office and will be included in all mail from that office until July 1.

Calhoun: Historical society is marking historic spots in the county and preparing a list of them with a brief history of each. The list will be given to each member.

Lancaster: County Historical Commission is co-sponsoring reading club and a program of exhibits, slides and tours has been planned. The Historical Society will publish leaflets on historic points of interest to be distributed on the tours. A radio series, "The Carolina Scrapbook", which began June 1st will continue through the summer.

Richland: A program on South Carolina Indians with an exhibit of Indian arrowheads and pottery inaugurated the Carolina Trails Reading club. Fifteen teachers brought students to the library where they joined the club as a group. Seven school libraries, which will be open one or two mornings a week, as well as the bookmobile will participate in the reading program.

York: The Historical Commission appointed a committee to work with the local libraries on plans for the reading club.

**AIKEN SESSION OFFERS NEW IDEAS FOR PROGRAM PLANNERS**

Aiken club women had the opportunity of hearing about new ideas for club programs when the Aiken branch of the American Association of University Women and the Aiken-Barnwell-Edgefield Regional Library sponsored a Program Planners Institute on Monday evening, April 25. Around 40 club representatives attended the Institute which was held at the Aiken County Health Center. The main speaker for the evening was Dr. C. A. Bramlette of the South Carolina Mental Health Association.

Clubs tend to concentrate on a "theme" for their programs, said Dr. Bramlette, and may forget that each member needs to feel that he belongs, and that he has an important part to play. Dr. Bramlette explained and illustrated ideas for club programs which will give each member a sense of participation.

Arrangements for the Institute were made by Miss Carrie Gene Ashley, Coordinator of Adult Services, Aiken-Barnwell-Edgefield Regional Library.



## COMMUNITY COOPERATION CONTINUES IN GREENWOOD

Proof that community interest need not wane after a successful drive for a new building is offered by recent news from Greenwood. Miss Elizabeth L. Porcher, Librarian, writes:

"We are delighted to see by this morning's Greenville News that the legislative committee is going to put in our elevator at long last. Also the Civitans are getting quotations for an attractive sign for the front of the building. The city fathers leveled the lot at the back of the building and the Jaycees mowed and trimmed the planting at the side and the front of the building, so shaming the county supervisor that he has promised us a convict for yard work every Saturday. An editorial from Mr. Chaffin also helped a bit. Mr. Maxwell planted twice as many roses at the rear of the building and they are furnishing us with some gorgeous bouquets each day - so the community is certainly continuing its support of our efforts. Oh, yes, the book clubs at Ninety-Six are trying to get the city council to furnish their share of a branch library there. With Chemstrand and the new Sloan Plant going up there I believe that the need is evident and I'm hoping that we'll have it in another year or two."

## CONTRACT AWARDED FOR WEST COLUMBIA - CAYCE LIBRARY

The contract for construction of the R. H. Smith Public Library in the West Columbia-Cayce area was awarded on May 12 to the Mechanics Construction Company of Columbia, low-bidders on the project. The cost will be \$25,470. Plumbing supplies are being donated by the W. H. (Buck) Plumbing Company of Cayce.

Plans call for a one-story building with an area of two thousand square feet and a book capacity of twenty thousand volumes. A conference room is included.

The library, made possible by a \$20,000 gift from R. H. Smith, local businessman, will serve the West Columbia-Cayce area. It will be operated as a branch of the Lexington County Circulating Library.

## WILLIAMSTON BRANCH OPENED

The Anderson County Library's newest branch was opened in Williamston with a reception on the afternoon of May 14. Housed in a building owned by the Williamston Masons, the library has been named the Susie Rumph Lander Library, in honor of the late Mrs. Lander who was a school librarian at the Williamston and Palmetto High Schools for thirty years.

Mrs. Helen Davenport has been appointed branch librarian.



## BIBLIOGRAPHY ON ALCOHOLISM IN PROCESS

Bryan Roberts, Reference Consultant State Library Board, in Collaboration with W. J. McCord, Educational Director of the S. C. Alcoholic Rehabilitation Program, is currently preparing a bibliography of books helpful to leaders on alcoholic rehabilitation.

These books, available through interlibrary loan, will be displayed at a three day conference on alcoholism in the University of South Carolina's Russell House, June 29, 30 and July 1, 1960.

## BUILDINGS INSTITUTE

Immediately before the biennial conference of the Southeastern Library Association, to be held in Asheville, October 13 - 15, a Buildings Institute will be sponsored by the Public Library Section. The institute will be held in the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, Charlotte, North Carolina, October 11 - 12. It is possible that a \$5.00 registration fee may be charged, but this will be collected at the time of registration. This will take care of the expense of a chartered bus for library visits in Mecklenburg and Gaston Counties. The program is being arranged by Hoyt Galvin, Director of the Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. The Buildings and Equipment Committee of the Public Library Section of the North Carolina Library Association is the host group. Applications for attendance should be directed to Mrs. Nancy Pumphrey, Statesville Public Library, Statesville, North Carolina.

## POSTAL BILLS - WRITE NOW!

Two bills of concern to libraries are now under consideration by the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee. Hearings have been under way since May 10 on H.R. 11140 which proposes rate revision to become effective on July 1, 1960. Among the proposed rate changes are these:

### First-Class Mail

- An increase on letter mail from 4 cents to 5 cents per ounce.
- An increase of 1-cent on postal and postcards and drop letters.

### Fourth-Class Mail

The preferential "book rate" for books and other fourth class matter entitled thereto will be increased from 9 cents for the first pound and 5 cents for each additional pound to 10 cents for the first pound and 6 cents for each additional pound.



The rates for library books and other library materials when mailed by the authorized organizations will be increased from 4 cents for the first pound and 1 cent for each additional pound to 5 cents for the first pound and 3 cents for each additional pound.

Another bill with implications for libraries is H.R. 10822. This bill proposes to amend section 204 (d) of the Postal Rate Revision Act of 1948 by striking out "phonograph recordings," and inserting in lieu thereof "religious, educational, or scientific sound recordings designed specifically for use in school classrooms or in religious instruction classes." The effect of this bill would be to restrict the use of the Educational Materials Rate to religious, educational, or scientific recordings designed specifically for use in school classrooms or in religious instruction classes. The American Library Association has recommended that the language of the bill be changed to permit mailing at the Educational Materials Rate of "sound recordings for use in educational institutions, public libraries and churches."

Letters expressing your opinion of these changes should be sent now to your Congressmen and to the Chairman of the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee, Tom Murray.

#### CHARLESTON SURVEY RESULTS

In order to have a guide against which to measure its own statistics, the Charleston County Library recently completed a survey of salaries and other income-connected statistics of 61 county and public libraries. Selections from the survey results are reprinted here for the information of other libraries.

##### Average income per capita of estimated population, March, 1960

60 libraries	\$1.75 per capita
44 libraries	1.76 per capita
36 Southern libraries	1.25 per capita

##### Average circulation per capita of estimated population

59 libraries	4.10 vols. average annual circulation per capita
43 libraries	4.25 " "
36 Southern libraries	3.20 " "
38 libraries with income of \$1.25 per capita and over.	4.90 " "



19 libraries with  
income of less  
than \$1.25 per  
capita.

2.50

"

"

Average annual circulation per staff member

59 libraries	15,341 volumes
43 libraries	15,403 "
36 Southern libraries	16,459 "

Average hours main building open per week

57 libraries	70 hours
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Average salary professional assistants  
(beginning classification)

50 libraries	\$4,700.00
34 libraries	4,729.00
27 Southern libraries	4,302.00

Average salary department or division heads

52 libraries	\$5,694.00
41 libraries	5,652.00
28 Southern libraries	5,211.00

Average assistant librarian (or deputy librarian) salary

38 libraries	\$6,841.00
24 libraries	6,526.00
23 Southern Libraries	6,331.00

Average salary, head librarian

54 libraries	\$9,081.00
41 libraries	8,398.00
33 Southern libraries	8,140.00

NECROLOGY

Librarians of South Carolina learned with regret of the death of Mrs. Pearle Harling Williams, widow of J. L. Williams, of Greenwood County on May 10. Mrs. Williams was an active promoter of rural library service in the state and, until ill health forced her resignation a few months ago, served as a trustee of the Greenwood City and County Public Library.



Mrs. Laura M. Stoll, for thirty years librarian of the Chester County Library's Great Falls branch, died in Chester late in April. Public Librarians join in expressing sympathy to her family.

## YOUR PROBLEMS

by Anne Library

Dear Anne:

Looking through our librarian's desk the other day, I came on a note addressed to me which said to keep my blankety-blank (I can't quote such language) nose out of her desk and mind my own business. I am incensed. Do you think I should protest, resign, or what?

Insulted

Dear Insulted:

Since you offer no excuse for "looking through our librarian's desk," I can only assume you got good advice. Keep your blankety-blank nose out of other people's desks and mind your own business.

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Dear Anne:

Give me a little help, please. One of the girls on our staff is a great talker. Unfortunately her favorite subject is criticism of our librarian and library, and sometimes the criticism is pretty sharp. The really disturbing thing is that she talks even more freely to the public, both on the job and off, than she does to the rest of the staff. We all take what she says with a grain of salt but we are afraid other people may take her seriously. How can we tame this wild tongue before it does real damage?

Worried

Dear Worried:

Your friend (?) is an idiot. A certain amount of intramural gossiping and griping is inevitable and probably good, a safety valve. This talk should be strictly confined to the staff, though. To the outside world the whole bunch of you from boss to janitor should present a loyal and united front on all matters, regardless of personal differences. Your friend in showing her disloyalty to the public in the long run will succeed only in discrediting herself.







The Colleton County Memorial Library receiving a gift of books from the Camerist Club of Walterboro.

The Kershaw Memorial Library showing the second Springs Art Exhibit.

The Greenville Public Library's children's library proudly using new furniture given by local women's clubs.

Mrs. James M. Patterson, President of the Allendale Library Board, being entertained by other members of the board on her birthday recently.

The Orangeburg County Library giving an autograph party for Mrs. Dana Pell Binnicker, the author of the historical romance, Blue Moon Over Cashiers Valley.

The Carnegie Public Library of Sumter receiving a gift of one hundred new merit badge pamphlets from the Boy Scouts of the Sumter-Lee-Shaw District.

Orangeburg Girl Scouts completing requirements for their magic carpet badge. For one month the girls studied story book characters at the Orangeburg County Free Library and climaxed the period with a party for which the girls dressed in costumes that the subjects wore in the books they read.

The children's department of the Carnegie Public Library of Sumter happily receiving a window air-conditioner, given by Mrs. H. E. Drevenstedt. Mrs. Drevenstedt is a member of the board of trustees.



By Col. Ernest B. Stevenson

With drums beating, fife playing and all arrayed in solid phalanx, workers for a Chesterfield County Library System in recent weeks have gone into homes, businesses, club meetings, and into the streets and roadways to plead a cause.

It is mind against mind, eloquence against silence, thrust against parry as in this great democracy the zealot seek to win believers for his cause. Some of those visited became convinced, some remained unconvinced. Advantage of books to read was weighed against the added cost. The number using the libraries in the county was weighed against the total population.

Routes of a bookmobile, salary of a librarian in the system, the fear of tax raises—all were brought into the open. The attitude of the county delegation, the aversion of some to signing petitions, the example of library systems in

other counties, the possibility of new problems that may come with change—these and many other things came into the conversations. Some workers had a positive approach, some a negative; some gave excuses for not soliciting more; others continued to ring door bells regardless of weather. Some citizens signed petitions; some wanted more information; more time to think this thing over.

And so goes the story of an issue laid to the public. Out of it comes thinking, objections, effort, decisions, and withal a better knowledge of our fellowman. We hope out of it will come the most good, for the most people in Chesterfield County. The effort, the time has been a stirring, challenging experience.

When you work for a cause you are lifted up by that cause! The cause gives you a courage to Fly Your Flag High that all men may realize that you stand for right and light as you see it.

March 17, 1960

## County Taxes And The Library

If you have property in Chesterfield County valued at \$250,000.00 and carried on the tax books at, say, \$12,500.00, you'd have to pay an extra \$37.50 a year if the county tax rate were upped by three mills.

If you owned a quarter of a million dollars in taxable property right here in Chesterfield County, chances are you'd have a pretty good bank roll, plenty in savings accounts, a top salary, an imposing investment portfolio of blue chip stocks and bonds, and paid-up insurance policies, none of which would be subject to any county tax at all.

You would, in a word, have it made, and be well able to pay this additional \$37.50. Most of us, of course, are considerably less blessed than this. The average citizen in the county, as a matter of fact, pays only about \$37.00 in county taxes in all—a tiny sum compared to most other taxpayers in South Carolina, a state that taxes its property holders less heavily than most, thank goodness.

To pay \$37.00 annually to the county, at our

present tax rate of 101 mills, or thereabouts, you'd have to own property with a market value somewhat in excess of \$8,000.00 and carried on the county tax books at \$400.00. This would make you pay \$40.00 per year.

Now, suppose your tax rate were increased by three mills. How much EXTRA tax would you pay? Take your \$400.00 valuation figure and multiply by .003, and what do you get? Just \$1.20.

That's right . . . just \$1.20 a year. How many barbecue tickets would that buy? How many soft drinks, beer, cigarettes? How many theatre tickets?

Yet for that paltry sum, the average taxpayer could finance a county library that would enhance the cultural and economic value of this community.

Many of us spend more than that on paperback pocketbooks a year. Yet for this amount we'd get \$1500.00 annually in state aid for the purchase of new books. People who otherwise get no chance to read would find new horizons open to them.

Here's a case where a tiny sacrifice by each of us will offer unparalleled opportunity for everyone. The library, under the proposed county system, offers us the biggest bargain of the year. We'd be penny-wise and pound foolish to reject the offer.

Last year we personally paid about \$121.00 in county taxes, which included a house and lot, a plant and lot, and two used cars, one of ancient vintage. If our taxes were raised three mills next year, this would cost our own family only \$3.60 extra a year. And we pay more than the average.

Somehow the idea of increased taxes terrifies people, no matter how little the amount; yet, we're morally certain that most of us GIVE AWAY far more than \$3.60 per year to transients who just come by and ask. We're sure that most of us WASTE far more than that.

Those who own more property may pay a higher tax, but then they are better able to do so. With greater opportunity comes higher civic responsibilities.

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